

22nd October 1927]

(b) (iii) how many cases of trespass in view of this rule have been discovered since the rule was made in all the forest divisions of Kurnool;

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(e) whether in the forest districts of Kurnool East, Kurnool South and Kurnool West reserve boundaries have been set back within the years 1925 and 1926, and if so, where and how far?

A.—(b) (ii) The half mile limits have not been marked as the heavy expenditure involved in cutting and maintaining the limits is not justified. The demarcation of the half mile limit is besides impracticable.

(b) (iii) No cases of trespass have come to light except one in Kurnool East division which is under investigation by the District Forest Officer.

(e) No reserve boundary was set back during 1925 and 1926.

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 831 asked by Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 22nd October 1927, page 414 supra.]

Copy of letter from the Executive Engineer, Kurnool division, to the Superintending Engineer, Madras Circle.

[Nandyal tank—Sluice No. 4—Legislative Council
question No. 337.]

I submit herewith a report dealing with the points in the Legislative Council question No. 471 seriatim.

471 Q.—(a) The barrel of the sluice was badly leaky. No motor was visible in the joints of the masonry so far as could be seen from both ends. The barrel was too small to admit of examination from inside. The bund over the sluice had sunk and the earth slopes round the cistern had been washed out. These indicated that the safety of the structure could not be relied upon and at any time the tank bund might suddenly collapse. The bad condition of this sluice among other points was noticed by me in the course of my inspection of works in the closure of 1-27. In the case of this tank which does not dry up every year, opportunity for thorough examination occurs only in bad years like the last one. Two notices of my inspection were given to the ryots through the Revenue department and the Irrigation Panchayat Board on 13th May 1927 and 21st May 1927 and I inspected the tank on 24th May 1927. Neither the Panchayat Board nor the ryots under the tank interested themselves in making any representations for improvements or bringing to notice any defects.

(b) The opening of the bund was started on 26th May 1927 but the unexpected rains in June 1927 retarded progress and the unusually heavy rains on 15th July 1927 suddenly filled up the tank in a day and the calingula began to surplus. Exposure and examination of the structure revealed that mere repairs would not do and the reconstruction was necessary.

[22nd October 1927]

(c) Formal sanction to an estimate for Rs. 2,840 for the reconstruction of the sluice was given in Superintending Engineer's No. 402 K.L., dated 5th August 1927. Permission to proceed with the work in anticipation of sanction had however been accorded earlier.

(d) Full details of the work to be done and materials required could not be got only after opening out the bund and exposing the sluice and as soon as this was done orders to collect the necessary materials were given; but the unusual and frequent rains since the first week of June were a great impediment to the collection of stones, and especially to the carting thereof, and of other materials, through the sticky and slushy cart-tracks of these parts. Information as to the actual quantities of materials at the site of the works on 15th July 1927 is not available as they were only contractor's materials. But it is seen from the section officer's reports that, by 28th June 1927, 450 cubic feet of building stones, 16 covering slabs and some sand were ready at the site. Metal for concrete was being broken at the quarry. Though we had almost daily rains at or around Nandyal, the contractor did his best to cart even heavy covering slabs to the site in miry tracks with sinking down to the axle. It was however hoped that these rains would cease and quick progress of work would be possible subsequently.

(e) By 7th July 1927, the ring bund has been formed to 6 inches below the level of the top of the bund. Only the central portion for a length of 15 feet was kept lower for inserting a pipe as a temporary measure to supply water to the lands under the demolished sluice, as it was then feared that owing to the monsoonish weather the reconstruction of the sluice might have to be delayed. This tank, in addition to the supply from the catchment, is fed by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal. The Secretary, Irrigation Panchayat Board, Nandyal tank, wrote to me on 14th July 1927 thus "the ring bund put up is very strong and even if the water is let down there will be no fear. For the higher level sluices, it will take one month to get water." The temporary pipes were at this time being fixed in the ring bund when an unexpected cloud burst from 15th July 1927 suddenly filled up the tank which was then fully dry. It was feared that the ring bund might not be strong to withstand this abnormal heavy flood, depth of water and wave wash, and as a breach here would mean danger for a portion of the town, besides damage to the lands below, it was strengthened with the help of the ryots and of the labourers collected from the surrounding villages. The Section Officer, Nandyal, and the Tahsildar were doing their utmost in the matter and the ring bund was put beyond danger by the evening of the 17th. The phenomenon of the tank getting filled like this in July is unusual. From past records it is seen that it is only after September that the tank rises to F.T.L. The rainfall this year in June was also unusually heavy being about four times the normal. But for these unforeseen circumstances the sluice would have been ready for use by the beginning of August.

(f) Even though all the sluices had been kept fully open, the fall in the level of water in the tank was not sufficiently quick. The weather also continued to be rainy and threatening. Hence, to rapidly reduce the level of water to safe limits, I considered it prudent to lower the weir temporarily.

(g) Intimation was received by me on the evening of 17th July 1927. I had just then returned from a tour in the Markapur section. Both the Subdivisional Officer and Section Officer, Kurnool, were down with high fever.

22nd October 1927]

New shutters to the 13th calingulah in the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal 7 miles below Kurnool. Almost every day there were rains round Kurnool. The vents of the calingulah had been ring-bunded. I was engaged in giving instructions in the manufacture and fitting up of these shutters expeditiously. I therefore wired back necessary instructions to the Section Officer at Nandyal. Subsequent reports received from the section officer showed that the ring bund was safe. Also the Collector of Kurnool, who had then (19th) come from Nandyal, informed me that there was no room for anxiety. I inspected the tank on 21st July 1927 as soon as I was free.

(h) As untoward circumstances had rendered the intended supply through the ring bund impracticable, I suggested during my inspection of the tank with the Sub-Collector on 22nd July 1927 that it would be easily possible to feed the small area of 105 acres under the di-mantled sluice from the next sluice No. 3 two furlongs off by a connecting channel taken along the toe of the bund. The Panchayat Secretary offered to get the earthwork of the channel done by the ryots. I hoped that in this matter the ryots would naturally have at least an equal if not greater interest than Government, accepted their offer to get this each channel ready as work could be done quickest in this manner and agreed to effect the necessary changes in the masonry work of the sluice No. 3 as soon as the channel was ready. In this, however, I was disappointed as nothing was done by them and the whole work was afterwards done by the Public Works Department. There has been no coercion in the matter as will be evident from the letter of the Tahsildar enclosed.

TAHSILDAR'S LETTER NO. 1402, SUP. OF 1927.

Retransmitted to the Subdivisional Officer, Nandyal.

2. A notice was issued to the ayacudars on 29th July 1927, copy of which was also sent to you, telling them that if they did not attend to the excavation of channel from sluice No. 3 from the Nandyal big tank as marked out by you, they would lose their claim to remission of land revenue in case their crops failed. It is perhaps to this that the Member of the Legislative Council refers to. But it was almost countermanded in a second notice, dated 4th August 1927, in which the ayacudars were informed that if they failed to take water through the channel prescribed, they would be liable to penal water-rate, the irrigation being irregular, still a third notice was given on 31st August 1927 that if the owners kept their lands waste, they would do so at their own risk and forfeit all title to any remission. So as the affair stands, no such coercion as referred to in the question is practised.